

House Resolution No. 4621

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who bring glory and honor to themselves and to this great state through the excellence of their achievements in their chosen fields of endeavor; and

Whereas, Norbert Thurmer of Affton has attained considerable distinction as a barkeeper who opened Thurmer's Steaks on Cherokee Street in Saint Louis in 1954 after his honorable discharge from the United States Marine Corps at the age of twenty-three; and

Whereas, fifty years later, Norbert Thurmer is still tending bar after selling his own place in 1989 and accepting employment at the Haven on Morganford Road; and

Whereas, Norbert Thurmer has always been associated with sports bars in large measure because of his support of such amateur, collegiate, and professional programs as ten different bowling teams, men's fast pitch softball, Washington University Billiken hoops teams, and a pro rugby team called the Bombers; and

Whereas, recently inducted into the International Softball Congress Hall of Fame in Fargo, North Dakota, Norbert Thurmer was a stellar component of a Springfield, Missouri, fast pitch softball team which won the regional championships in 1958 and went on to Minneapolis, Minnesota, to compete nationally; and

Whereas, two former bartenders who worked with Norbert Thurmer for many years include major league umpire Gerry Davis and retired National Football League referee Dick Hantak; and

Whereas, when Norbert Thurmer ran into problems with the IRS in 1983, Bob Costas helped rescue the South Side legend by serving as emcee of a fund-raiser on his behalf; and

Whereas, because of his longstanding ties to softball, Saint Louis native Norbert Thurmer is known by his many friends, colleagues, and patrons as "Mr. Softie", a term of endearment which belies his fiercely competitive nature and gravelly, booming voice; and

Whereas, Norbert Thurmer is justifiably proud to be known as the loving father of a son, Stephen, and a daughter, Susan:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long, productive, and ongoing career engaged in by Norbert Thurmer and to convey to him this legislative body's most heartfelt congratulations as he observes his Golden Anniversary as a bartender and our sincerest best wishes for continued personal and professional success for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Norbert Thurmer of Affton, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Patricia M. Yaeger
District No. 96

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4621, adopted December 9, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker